



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

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Press Release

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Judicial Council Amends Budget Request to Include Funds for Accountability Courts

Atlanta, GA---The Judicial Council of Georgia, chaired by Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein, met in Atlanta on January 5, 2012, to discuss policy, legislation, and budget matters.

The membership voted to amend its FY 2013 Budget Enhancement Request by adding \$19,216,881 to fund Accountability Courts as recommended by the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform. The Special Council recommended “expanding the number of accountability courts and implementing a comprehensive standards and evaluation system.”

The funds would provide support to enable the 48 currently-running Accountability Courts to use nationally recognized best practices, establish 20 new Adult Felony Drug Courts, and five new Mental Health Courts. The request also includes funds for program audits and training for accountability court personnel.

The 25-member Judicial Council of Georgia meets several times a year to act on policy and administrative matters of the judiciary. Designated judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, superior courts, and the limited jurisdiction trial courts serve on the Judicial Council.

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